

Burnley Rural District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

Dr. H. J. ROBINSON,

Medical Officer of Health,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1911.

BURNLEY :

George Anderson (Burnley) Limited, 50, St. James's Street.

Burnley Rural District Council.

YEAR ENDED 1911.

COUNCILLORS :

Altham	Albert Foster.
Barley	John Collinge.
Blacko	Tom Ridehalgh.
Briercliffe	William Nuttall, J.P.
Cliviger	John Jobling.
Dunnoekshaw	Stephen Landless.
Foulridge	James Lonsdale, J.P.
Goldshaw Booth	Alexander Bell.
Habergham Eaves	Joseph Alexander Barlow.
Hapton	Frederick L. Riley, J.P.
Higham	James Stuttard.
Huncoat.....	John Booth.
Ightenhill	Chas. H. Webster, J.P.
Old Laund Booth	Hezekiah Proctor.
Read	Rev. James Robinson, M.A.
Reedley Hallows	R. Haythornthwaite.
Roughlee Booth	William James Martin.
Sabden	Wilfred Hargreaves.
Simonstone and Northtown	T. H. Thompson, J.P.
Worsthorne-with-Hurstwood ...	John Smith Leaver.

OFFICIALS :

Chairman—	JAMES LONSDALE, J.P.
Vice-Chairman—	T. H. THOMPSON, J.P.
Clerk—	J. S. HORN, J.P.
Medical Officer of Health—	H. J. ROBINSON, B.A. ; M.R.C.S.
Surveyor—	HAROLD PRITCHARD, M.INST.M.C.E.
Sanitary Inspector—	R. J. ATKINSON, A.R.SAN.I.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BURNLEY
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year ending December 31st, 1911.

The Burnley Rural District is situated in North East Lancashire.

The area of the district at the beginning of the year was 42,454 acres, but owing to the acquisition of the Township of Brunshaw and portions of Habergham-Eaves and Cliviger by the Corporation of Burnley for their Borough Extension Scheme, this area is now reduced to 41,840 acres.

The altitude varies from 200 to 1,831 feet above ordnance datum, the average being about 650 feet.

The subsoil is mostly clay, and the district is very damp, having an average rainfall of over 40 inches. The rainfall during the past year recorded at the Burnley Meteorological Station, which is situated in the centre of the district, was 44.14 inches.

The inhabitants are engaged principally in textile manufacturing, coal mining and farming.

The population at the last census was 20,292, but this will now be reduced by 460, being the population of that part of the district now in the Borough of Burnley.

Having regard to the fact that the Burnley Extension Act did not come into force until November, I have based my calculations for this report upon an estimated population of 20,360, which includes those portions taken over by Burnley. Of course until the end of the year the returns of births and deaths have been for the whole area.

BIRTHS.—The number of Births registered in the District for the year is 396, Males 206, Females 190, and of these eleven were illegitimate. This gives a birth-rate of 19.45 per thousand of the population. The rate for the previous year was 20.5. With the exception of the year ending December 31st, 1908, when the birth-rate was 19.15, this is the lowest of which I have any record for the District.

DEATHS.—The total number of deaths of persons belonging to the District, whether they actually died in the District or not, is 237, Males 117, Females 120, which gives an annual death-rate of 11.64 per thousand of the population. The death-rate for the previous year was 12.9 and the average rate for the previous ten years is over 13, so that there is reason for satisfaction, so far as the rate shows in the fairly healthy condition of the District.

The Tables of Returns at the end of the report, as required by the Local Government Board, are in many respects different in character from those of previous years, especially as regards the deaths in the various age periods and also in the classification of diseases, but upon reference to Table III. it will be seen that the most fatal of the diseases have been Respiratory, including Phthisis, totalling altogether 45. And other main causes of death are Cancer and Malignant Diseases, 12; Nephritis and Brights, 10; Violent Deaths, 10; Suicides, 5; and from Congenital Debility and Malformations. including Premature Birth, 20.

The deaths from Phthisis or Pulmonary Tuberculosis are 11, the same as last year, which is certainly not high considering the climate and occupations of the people in the District, and in visiting the various parts of the District it has been, and is a most pleasing fact that generally there is a great improvement in sanitary conditions and precautions, greater love for fresh air in dwelling and sleeping rooms, and more cleanly habits. Of course there are many cases of the opposite character, especially in relation to houses, etc., as will be seen by later statistics given in this report, but it is always a danger to which we are exposed in visiting and inspecting property and homes, to have our vision and opinions coloured by darker and dirtier conditions now and then found.

Whenever a case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis has been known, prior to the recent order for its notification, special instructions have been given, and in the case of death, the rooms, etc., have been disinfected. I am sure that the compulsory notification of this disease will be of great service and some provision will soon have to be made either by the Council itself or in association with other districts, for the Sanatorium treatment of suitable cases which cannot hope to get all that is desirable for their treatment and possible cure in their own homes.

Another matter to which I would call attention is that there have been two deaths from Diphtheria; this is not so bad considering that we have had an exceptional number of cases reported during the year, namely 19 as against 4 for the previous year. Most of the cases have been exceptionally mild, and I am pleased that the Council has consented to supply "Anti-Diphtheritic Serum" to such cases when the doctor in attendance requires it; or finds that the friends of the patient cannot afford to purchase it.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.—On reference to Table IV. you will see tabulated the causes of death of children who have died within the first year of life. Out of 396 children born during the year, 56 have died under one year, which means that the Infantile Mortality for this year is 141.41 per thousand births, as against 131.7 for the previous year. This is very much higher than ought normally to obtain, but it will be remembered the high Infantile Mortality which obtained throughout the country in the summer months, and that placards and circulars were issued in most parts of the country, at the suggestion of the Local Government Board, giving instructions and warnings to parents relative to the causes, and their prevention, of deaths in young children, especially diarrhoea and enteritis. I am pleased to say that I did not advise the Council to placard this District, because it has been my custom and that of your Sanitary Inspector for years to insist as far as possible, upon sanitary conditions in the reception of milk and the general care and preparation of foods and the destruction by burning of all unused and unusable parts of food—and this more and more obtains and therefore throughout the whole year we have only had 8 deaths from diarrhoea and enteritis combined—4 of each.

Of the other causes of Infantile Mortality 14 have been due to Premature Birth, 7 from Convulsions, 7 from Pneumonia, and 5 from Whooping Cough. It will be noticed that 26 children died under one month, these including the 14 Premature Births.

That many of the 56 infants could have been saved by the exercise of care and common sense is undoubted, and notwithstanding all that is said and done, injudicious feeding and careless exposure of children still obtains.

Measles and Whooping Cough have been very prevalent in the District, 126 cases of the former and 79 of the latter having come to my knowledge. The majority of these cases have, however, been of older children, chiefly of school age. The one death of an infant from Measles was over 10 months old.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—Notifications received during the year are as follow :—

Scarlet Fever.....	46
Typhoid Fever	5
Diphtheria	19
Erysipelas	10
Puerperal Fever	2
	—
Total	82

This number shows a decrease of 17 from last year, and with the exception of the year 1904, when 61 cases were notified, is the lowest number reported for the past ten years.

The following townships have been free from Infectious Disease : Barley, Blacko, Dunnockshaw, Goldshaw Booth, North Town, Roughlee and Wheatley Carr.

Of the 46 cases of Scarlet Fever the most have occurred at Foulridge where eleven were notified, Briercliffe (9), Read and Simonstone (13) and Habergham (7); the remainder being at Huncoat, Ightenhill, Old Laund Booth, Reedley and Sabden.

I am pleased to say that the epidemic which prevailed at Foulridge during 1910 ceased at the beginning of the year and only two cases have been reported from that township since February and both were at isolated houses.

The seven cases at Habergham-Eaves all occurred at one farm and were immediately removed to the Sanatorium.

The five cases of Typhoid occurred in different villages.

The number of cases of Diphtheria shows an increase over last year, when only four cases were notified, but the majority have been of an exceedingly mild character. These occurred at Altham (3), Briercliffe (2), Cliviger (4), Habergham-Eaves (1), Higham (1), Old Laund Booth (1) and Worsthorpe (7).

In most of these cases it is difficult to trace the source of infection, but at Worsthorpe, where five cases occurred in one street, I attribute the cause to defective drains which were taken up and relaid.

The ten cases of Erysipelas were notified from Altham (2), Briercliffe (1), Cliviger (1), Old Laund Booth (2), Reedley (1) and Sabden (3), whilst the two cases of Puerperal occurred at Foulridge and Hapton.

Immediately upon the receipt of the notification the infected houses are visited for the purpose of ascertaining, if possible, the source of infection, and also for giving instructions to prevent the spread of the disease. At the same time disinfectants are left at the house.

In all cases school authorities are notified so that children from infected houses should not attend school until all danger of infection is past.

After the recovery of the patients, or, if removed to the Sanatorium, immediately after such removal the infected rooms and bedding have been disinfected either with formalin vapour or by spraying with formalin solution.

There is not a disinfecting station in the District, but an arrangement has been made with the Burnley Corporation for the removal of bedding to their disinfectors.

The total number of houses fumigated during the year is 57, while the number of visits made to houses where infectious disease existed is 105.

Where proper isolation could not be secured at home the patients have been removed to the Sanatorium which is situated within the Borough of Burnley and controlled by a Joint Hospital Board.

24 patients have been removed as follows:—

Scarlet Fever.....	20
Typhoid	1
Diphtheria	3
	—
Total	24

Twelve cases were notified from farm houses, viz. : Diphtheria (1) Scarlet Fever (10), and Erysipelas (1). At these farms every precaution was taken to prevent the milk becoming infected and in no case has it been necessary to stop the sale of same.

Owing to the prevalence of Measles among the scholars the following schools have been closed upon my recommendation for varying periods, viz. :—

Blacko, Infants' Department.
Briercliffe, Do.

Both these schools were properly fumigated, as also was the National School at Read where a few cases of Scarlet Fever had occurred.

The following table shows the number of cases notified during the year 1911 and the preceding 10 years.

DISEASES.	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911
Scarlet Fever.....	70	130	55	25	88	53	130	70	72	64	46
Typhoid Fever	5	8	6	14	10	13	4	8	6	12	5
Diphtheria	17	13	20	9	13	9	5	22	4	4	19
Erysipelas	8	7	6	9	18	11	18	12	12	16	10
Membranous Croup ..	1	1	2	1	0	1	3	1	1	..	0
Puerperal Fever	0	1	0	1	2	2	3	1	1	3	2
Small Pox	0	11	18	2	2	0	0	0	0	..	0
Totals	101	171	107	61	133	89	163	114	96	99	82

Average for preceding 10 years—113.

Distribution during the twelve months:—

1911.	Scarlet Fever.	Typhoid Fever.	Diphtheria.	Erysipelas.	Membranous Croup.	Puerperal Fever.	Small Pox.	Total.
January	6		1					7
February	8	1	2	3				14
March	3							3
April	3	1	5	1		1		11
May	2		4	1				7
June	6		4	1				11
July	9					1		10
August			1					1
September	5			1				6
October	1	3	1	1				6
November	1			1				2
December	2		1	1				4
Total	46	5	19	10		2		82

TABLE SHOWING DISTRIBUTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Township.	Estimated. Population.	Scarlet Fever.	Cases per 100.	Diphtheria.	Cases per 100.	Typhoid Fever.	Cases per 100.	Erysipelas.	Cases per 100.	Puerperal Fever.	Cases per 100.	Membranous Group	Cases per 100.	Small Pox.	Cases per 100.	Total number of Cases in each Township	Cases per 100
Altham	925	..	..	3	.32	..	..	2	.21	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	.54
Barley-with-Wheatley Booth	353	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Blacko.....	502	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Briercliffe	3062	9	.29	2	.06	1	.03	1	.03	..	..	..	..	..	..	13	.42
Brunshaw	307	..	..	..	..	1	.32	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	.32
Cliviger	1827	..	..	4	.22	..	..	1	.05	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	.27
Dumockshaw	517	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Foulridge	1409	11	.78	..	..	1	.07	..	..	1	.07	..	..	..	..	13	.92
Goldshaw Booth	156	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Habergham Eaves	459	7	1.52	1	.21	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	1.74
Hapton	2142	..	..	..	..	1	.05	..	..	1	.05	..	..	..	..	2	.09
Higham	759	..	..	1	.13	1	.13	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	.26
Huncoat	1494	1	.06	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	.06
Ightenhill Park.....	123	1	.81	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	.81
North Town	133	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Old Laund Booth	802	1	.12	1	.12	..	..	2	.24	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	.50
Read	958	9	.94	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	.94
Reedley Hallows	698	1	.14	..	..	..	..	1	.14	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	.28
Roughlee	352	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sabden	1725	2	.11	..	..	..	..	3	.17	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	.29
Simonstone	502	4	.79	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	.79
Wheatley Carr	54	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Worsthorne-with-Hurstwood	1101	..	..	7	.62	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	.62
Totals.....	20360	46	.2	19	.10	5	.02	10	.05	2	.009	..	..	..	..	82	.40
Corresponding Totals for last year	20000	64	.32	4	.02	12	.06	16	.08	3	.015	..	..	..	..	99	.49

SANITARY MATTERS.—Not during my period of office has there been so much work entailed and done in the District as during the past year. Either alone or with your Surveyor and Inspector the various parts of the District have been visited. The subjoined report for the particulars and tabulation of which I must express my indebtedness to Mr. Atkinson, the Sanitary Inspector, and for many particulars relative to water supplies and Sewage Works, etc., to your Surveyor, Mr. Pritchard, to both of whom I am indebted for willing and hearty service and co-operation more than I can tell.

I may mention that so far as work done under the Housing and Town Planning Act is concerned, I have visited and inspected the worst houses in all parts of the District, and duly reported from time to time to the Council, having attended for the purpose nearly every one of its committee meetings; but the chief work has been done at Sabden where a thorough house-to-house inspection has been made and a tabulated report taken and filed. I have considered it much better to do one part of the District thoroughly, and taking the worst part first and then the other parts afterwards. You will find a fairly full tabulated statement of the conditions found, the actions taken, and their results in the following tables.

WATER SUPPLY.—The water supply for the greater part of the District is good, and I give hereunder particulars showing how the various townships are supplied:—

<i>Townships.</i>	<i>Supply.</i>
Simonstone and Altham	Principally from Padiham Urban District Council and the Accrington and District Joint Water Board.
Barley, Blacko, Old Laund Booth, Wheatley Carr, and Reedley Hallows.	Principally from Nelson Corporation—remainder private supplies.
Brunshaw, Habergham-Eaves Worsthorpe and Ightenhill	From Burnley Corporation.
Briercliffe, Cliviger, Foulridge and Read	From the Council's own Water Works (each township has separate supply).
Huncoat.....	Accrington and District Joint Water Board.
Sabden, Hapton and Dunnockshaw	Water Works owned privately.
Higham, Goldshaw Booth, Northtown and Roughlee Booth	Have no systematic supply. Northtown is to be supplied from Padiham almost immediately.

BRIERCLIFFE WATER.—Owing to the hardness of the water from the Bore Hole at Herd House, the Council have decided to construct a mixing reservoir at Slack, having a capacity equal to half-day's supply and for this purpose the Council's Engineer is at present engaged in preparing the necessary plans for same.

It is intended that in this reservoir the water from Twist will be mixed with the water from Herd House in the proportion of 3 parts of Twist water, which is soft, to 1 part of Herd House Water, which will considerably lessen the hardness.

HIGHAM WATER SUPPLY.—The Local Government Board having recently given sanction for the borrowing of £1,515 for the laying of the necessary mains, the Council are inviting tenders for carrying out the necessary work and it is hoped that an adequate supply will be at the disposal of the inhabitants of Higham within the next few months.

READ WATER.—The water main in Read has now been extended to the new property recently built at Hambledon View.

NEWCHURCH WATER.—The question of a supply of water for Newchurch is a very difficult one, but is receiving careful attention.

As a result of sinking a well about 12 feet deep into the rock, it has been found that water outcrops, and it is hoped that after boring operations have been executed, a supply of wholesome water will be obtained.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.—The following Townships have their own Sewage Disposal Works; the method of treatment is also given:—

<i>Township.</i>	<i>Method of Treatment.</i>
Altham	Closed septic tanks and percolating filter.
Huncoat.....	Open septic tank and double contact filters.
Sabden	Settling tanks and percolating filters.
Worsthorne	Septic tanks and percolating filters.

The sewers in Briercliffe, Brunshaw, a portion of Habergham-Eaves, Hapton, Read, Reedley Hallows and Simonstone are connected to the Burnley Corporation Sewers.

FOULRIDGE SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.—A complete scheme for the sewerage and disposal of sewage for the township of Foulridge has been prepared and is now before the Local Government Board. The scheme, which is estimated to cost £5,200, is so designed as to be capable of receiving and treating a Daily Dry Weather flow equal to 31,500 gallons. Both the sewers and the disposal works have been very carefully designed, having regard to the many engineering difficulties, as well as the nature, levels, and situations of the properties to be drained.

SABDEN SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS.—At a cost of £1,600 the Sewage Disposal Works at Sabden have been extended and are now dealing with about 90,000 gallons of sewage daily (normal flow). The extensions comprise an additional precipitation tank, having a capacity of 30,000 gallons, which has increased the total tank capacity to over 79,000 gallons, and two artificial filters of the percolating type, on to which the tank effluent is distributed by means of two of Messrs. George Jennings, Ltd. revolving distributors, having a diameter of 84 feet 6 inches each. These filters are capable of dealing with 140,000 gallons per 24 hours.

The effluent from the filters is passed on to land areas, but owing to the subsoil being clay, it has been necessary to drain the two land areas thoroughly, which work has been effected at a small cost, while the result from the same are such as to warrant this expenditure.

Owing to the complex nature of the crude sewage which comprises two-thirds Printwork effluent and one-third Domestic Sewage, it has been found necessary to add a small quantity of Alumino-Ferric in the tanks, which has proved very successful, and it is now hoped that the works will give entire satisfaction, which hitherto they have failed to do.

DUNNOCKSHAW SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.—The question of providing a proper scheme for the Sewering and Sewage Disposal for the Township of Dunnockshaw is receiving attention. The Council are in negotiations at the present time with neighbouring authorities for the reception and treatment of the sewage from this part of the Burnley Rural District.

PRIVATE STREET WORKS.—An order investing this Council with Urban powers determining Special Expenses in connection with the making up of a number of Streets in Worsthorne under the Private Street Works Act, 1892, having been issued by the Local Government Board, the Council have decided to put the work in hand immediately.

The Engineer to the Council is at present engaged in Scheduling the Private Streets in Briercliffe and Hapton, which require to be dealt with under the Private Street Works Act, 1892.

STORM WATER DRAIN, WORSTHORNE.—A 24in. Earthenware Storm Water Drain has been constructed for a distance of about 300 yards through the village of Worsthorne, to replace the old stone drain which used to serve as a sewer before the new sewerage scheme was completed.

This work has removed what has always been a serious nuisance owing to the foul smells which were emitted from the old drain through the joints of the flags covering the same.

SCAVENGING.—The following Townships are scavenged by the Council's own vehicles and labour :—Altham, Barley, Briercliffe, Brunshaw, Cliviger, Goldshaw Booth, Habergham-Eaves, Hapton, Higham, Huncoat, Old Laund Booth, Northtown, Read, Reedley Hallows, Roughlee, Sabden, Simonstone and Worsthorne.

Blacko, Foulridge and Ightenhill are scavenged by contract, and I am pleased to say that the work has been performed very satisfactorily and that no complaints have reached this office during the past twelve months.

The following summary shows the quantities of house refuse, etc., removed, also how the District is divided up for the purposes of scavenging. These figures only relate to the work done by the Council's vehicles and labour.

	Ashpits emptied.	Ash Bins emptied.	Privy Pails emptied.	Privy Tanks emptied.	Loads of Ashes removed.	Loads of Nightsoil removed.
Briercliffe and part of Reedley	4526	3938	772	646	942	354
Hapton and Huncoat	2238	4646	9039	28	991	279
Altham, Simonstone, Read and part of Northtown.....	1437	4064	4115	191	763	326
Sabden and part of Northtown.....	826	3647	3571	48	754	144
Old Laund Booth, Barley, Higham, Goldshaw Booth, Roughlee, and part of Reedley	793	1349	5704	888	498	1055
Worsthorne, Cliviger, Habergham-Eaves, and Brunshaw	1913	3433	8939	612	704	628
Totals	11733	21077	32140	2413	4652	2786

There is no refuse destructor in the District and the refuse is disposed of by filling up disused quarries, ditches and hollows situated as far as possible from dwelling-houses.

For most of the townships there are plenty of good tips, Reedley Hallows being the only place where difficulty is experienced in this direction.

There are a large number of ashpits in the district, but much progress is being made with the abolition of same as they become insanitary. Where ashpits are abolished galvanized iron bins are substituted. During the year 23 ashpits have been done away with and 58 bins provided.

For new houses bins are always provided. These are emptied every fortnight by the Council's workmen.

Tank privies are gradually being abolished and where there are no sewers near these are converted to the pail system. Where sewers do exist the privies, both pail and tank, are converted to either slop-water or fresh-water closets.

Privy pails are emptied once a week.

18 tank privies have been put on the pail system.				
4	„	„	converted to waste-water closets	
18	„	„	fresh water closets	
8 pail	„	„	waste water closets	
10 pail	„	„	fresh water closets	
Approximate number of privy middens in the whole district				920
„	„	pail closets	„ „	923
„	„	waste water closets	„ „	2336
„	„	fresh water closets	„ „	220

HOUSING ACT.—In accordance with the Regulations issued by the Local Government Board in 1910, the following table shows the work that has been done during the year :—

Number of dwelling-houses inspected	436
„ „ where defects existed ...	361
„ „ unfit for habitation	29
„ representations to Local Authority Act with a view to making closing orders...	18
„ Closing Orders made	1
„ Dwelling-houses where defects were remedied without making Closing Orders	10
„ Dwelling-houses put into a fit state of Habitation after making Closing Orders	Nil.
„ Dwelling-houses demolished	Nil.
„ Defects remedied, particulars of which will be found in the summary on page 15...	299

It will be observed from the above that 29 houses were considered unfit for habitation. Letters were sent to the owners who promise to put them into fit state of habitation. The serving of Closing Orders has therefore been left in abeyance.

The owner of the house in connection with which a Closing Order has been served, has written that he intends at an early date to make the same fit for habitation.

There are several houses at which improvements are now in progress. These will be included in my next report.

SUMMARY OF DEFECTS REMEDIED DURING 1911.

	Ordinary Inspection.	Under Housing Act.	Total
Accumulations of Night Soil, Refuse, &c.	34	2	36
Defective Closets	8	5	13
Defective Ashpits	9	20	29
Defective Drainage	78	43	121
Dilapidated Privy Pails	4	1	5
Choked Waste Water Closets	25	8	33
Polluted and Insufficient Water Supplies ...	8	32	40
Animals kept so as to be a Nuisance	2	...	2
Insufficient Closet Accommodation	2	6	8
Insufficient accommodation for House Refuse	9	12	21
Insanitary Privies	47	20	67
Insanitary Middensteads	4	...	4
Damp Houses .....	...	25	25
Defective or absence of Eaves Gutters ...	6	17	23
Streets in such a condition as to be a nuisance	5	1	6
Choked Sewers	2	...	2
Overcrowded Dwellings	1	4	5
Dwellings in dirty condition.....	...	22	22
Smoke Nuisances	1	...	1
Choked Surface Water Drains and Gullies ...	6	2	8
Defective Water Fittings	13	3	16
Defective Yard Paving	1	17	18
Dwellings closed as being unfit for habitation	...	...	...
Contents of Shippon Tanks overflowing.....	4	...	4
Houses with rooms not properly ventilated	...	20	20
„ „ Defective Floors .....	...	9	9
„ „ Defective Walls and Ceilings ...	...	15	15
Flooded Cellars	2	...	2
Dilapidated Out-buildings	2	7	9
Other Defects	9	8	17
	<hr/> 282	<hr/> 299	<hr/> 581

Number of Informal Notices served	306
„ „ Statutory „ „	70
45 written complaints were received.	

The following shows the number of defects remedied in each township, both under ordinary inspections as well as under the Housing Act, 1909.

ALTHAM.

Nuisances remedied :—

	Ordinary Inspection.	Under Housing Act
Accumulations of Night Soil, Refuse, &c.	1	Nil.
Total	<u>1</u>	<u>Nil.</u>

BARLEY.

Defects remedied :—

	Ordinary Inspection.	Under Housing Act
Accumulations of Night Soil, Refuse, &c. ...	1	...
Defective Drainage	1	...
Insufficient Accommodation for House Refuse	1	...
Insanitary Privies	2	...
Defective Yard Paving	1	...
Overcrowded Dwellings	1	...
Other Nuisances	3	...
Total	<u>10</u>	<u>Nil.</u>

BLACKO.

Number of houses inspected under the Housing Act	2
„ „ found defective „ „	2

Defects remedied :—

	Ordinary Inspection.	Under Housing Act
Dilapidated Privy Pails .....	...	1
Dwellings in dirty condition.....	...	1
Totals	<u>Nil.</u>	<u>2</u>

BRUNSHAW.

Defects remedied :—

	Ordinary Inspection.	Under Housing Act
Defective Closets.....	6	...
„ Drainage	12	...
Insufficient Closet Accommodation	1	...
Total	<u>19</u>	<u>Nil.</u>

BRIERCLIFFE.

Number of houses inspected under the Housing Act	33
„ „ found satisfactory „ „	6
„ „ „ defective „ „	27

Defects and Nuisances remedied :—

	<i>Ordinary Inspection.</i>	<i>Under Housing Act.</i>
Accumulations of Night Soil, Refuse, &c.	2	...
Defective Drainage	2	1
Polluted and Insufficient Water Supplies ...	...	1
Animals kept so as to be a Nuisance	1	...
Insanitary Privies	1	1
Insanitary Middens	2	...
Defective or Absence of Eaves Gutters.....	3	1
Streets in such a state as to be a nuisance...	1	...
Choked Surface Water Drains and Gullies...	1	...
Contents of Shippon Tanks overflowing	1	...
Total	14	4

Several other defects have been discovered, but owing to the works only being partially completed, they are not included in the above figures.

One house is unfit for habitation but will be put into proper repair as soon as the present tenant is able to get another house.

CLIVIGER.

Number of Houses inspected under the Housing Act	67
„ „ found satisfactory „ „	10
„ „ „ defective „ „	57

Defects and Nuisances remedied :—

	<i>Ordinary Inspection.</i>	<i>Under Housing Act</i>
Defective Closets .....	...	5
Defective Ashpits	1	...
Defective Drainage	1	5
Polluted and insufficient Water Supplies ...	...	30
Insanitary Privies	2	...
Overcrowded Dwellings .....	...	1
Dwellings in dirty condition.....	...	1
Choked Surface Water Drains	1	...
Totals	5	42
Privies converted to Pail System		2
Ashpits abolished		1
Houses where bins have been provided		2

FOULRIDGE.

Number of Houses inspected under the Housing Act	8
„ „ found satisfactory „ „	2
„ „ „ defective „ „	6

Defects remedied :—

	Ordinary Inspection.	Under Housing Act
Accumulation of Night Soil, Refuse, &c. ...	3	...
Defective Ashpits .....	...	1
Defective Drainage	2	1
Polluted and Insufficient Water Supplies ...	...	1
Insanitary Privies	4	...
Damp Houses .....	...	2
Cellars flooded	1	...
Other Nuisances	1	...
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	11	5

Ashpits abolished	1
Houses at which bins have been provided.....	1

One house was found to be in a dilapidated condition and unfit for human habitation, but was put into proper habitable repair after an informal notice had been served upon the owner.

GOLDSHAW BOOTH.

Number of Houses inspected under the Housing Act	1
„ „ found defective „ „	1

Nuisances and Defects remedied :—	Ordinary Inspection.	Under Housing Act
Accumulations of Night Soil, Refuse, &c. ...	2	...
Damp Houses .....	...	1
Insanitary Privies .....	...	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	2	3

Tank Privies converted to Pail System	2
---	---

HABERGHAM-EAVES.

Defects remedied :—	Ordinary Inspection.	Under Housing Act
Defective Drainage	1	...
Polluted and Insufficient Water Supply ...	5	...
Insanitary Privies	1	...
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	7	Nil.

Tank Privies converted to Pail System	1
---	---

HAPTON.

Number of Houses inspected under the Housing Act	47
„ „ found satisfactory „ „	4
„ „ „ defective „ „	41
„ „ unfit for habitation „ „	2

Nuisances and Defects remedied :—

	Ordinary Inspection.	Under Housing Act
Accumulations of Night Soil, Refuse, &c. ...	4	...
Defective Closets.....	1	...
„ Ashpits	1	3
„ Drainage	4	3
Dilapidated Privy Pails	3	...
Choked Waste Water Closets	21	6
Insufficient Accommodation for Refuse ...	4	...
Insanitary Privies	2	...
Damp Houses .....	...	5
Defective or Absence of Eaves Gutters.....	2	...
Streets in such a condition as to be a nuisance	1	...
Overcrowded Dwellings .....	...	1
Dwellings in dirty state .....	...	12
Choked S.W. Gullies and Drains.....	2	...
Defective Water Fittings	2	3
Houses with rooms not properly ventilated.....	...	3
Dilapidated Outbuildings .....	...	1
Defective Walls and Ceilings .....	...	1
Defective Floors .....	...	1
Other Defects	1	4
Totals	48	43

Tank Privies converted to Pail System	2
Ashpits abolished	3
and 5 bins provided in lieu of same.	

Two of the houses inspected are unfit for habitation, but the serving of Closing Orders has been left in abeyance owing to the landlord promising to put them into good repair.

HIGHAM.

Defects remedied :—

	Ordinary Inspection.	Under Housing Act
Defective Drainage	2	...
Defective or absence of Eaves Gutters	1	...
Total	3	Nil.

HUNCOAT.

Number of houses inspected under Housing Act	31
„ „ found satisfactory „ „	5
„ „ „ defective „ „	26

Defects remedied :—

	Ordinary Inspection.	Under Housing Act
Accumulation of Night Soil, Refuse, &c. ....	...	2
Defective Drainage	2	...
Streets in such condition as to be a nuisance...	1	1
Dwellings in dirty condition.....	...	6
Choked S.W. Gullies and Drains.....	1	...
Defective Yard Paving .....	...	5
Houses with rooms not properly ventilated	...	8
Dilapidated Out-buildings .....	...	4
Defective Floors .....	...	8
Defective Walls and Ceilings .....	...	8
Houses in a damp state .....	...	3
Other Defects .....	...	1
Total	4	46

Nine houses inspected under the Housing Act were unfit for habitation, but after the service of an informal notice upon the owners, eight of these were put into proper repair.

With regard to the remaining house a Closing Order has been served and the owner has written stating that he will have this house made fit for habitation forthwith.

IGHTENHILL.

Defects remedied :—

	Ordinary Inspection.	Under Housing Act
Accumulation of Night Soil, Refuse, &c. ...	1	...
Total	1	Nil.

OLD LAUND BOOTH.

Number of Houses inspected under the Housing Act	2
„ „ found defective „ „	2

Number of Defects remedied :—

	Ordinary Inspection.	Under Housing Act
Defective Drainage	6	1
Dilapidated Privy Pails	1	...
Choked Surface Water Gullies and Drains ...	1	1
Total	8	2

One dwelling-house inspected under the Housing Act, has a defective and polluted water supply, the water being obtained from an open ditch. This matter is now being attended to, the work having commenced.

READ.

Number of Houses inspected under the Housing Act	5
„ „ found satisfactory „ „	4
„ „ „ defective „ „	1

Defects remedied :—

	Ordinary Inspection.	Under Housing Act
Insufficient Accommodation for House Refuse	1	...
Cellars flooded	1	...
Damp Houses .....	...	1
Totals	2	1

REEDLEY HALLOWS.

Number of Houses inspected under the Housing Act	24
„ „ found satisfactory „ „	3
„ „ „ defective „ „	21

Defects remedied :—

	Ordinary Inspection.	Under Housing Act
Accumulations of Night Soil, Refuse, &c. ...	1	...
Defective Closets	1	...
Defective Ashpits .....	...	1
Defective Drainage	6	6
Insanitary Privies .....	...	4
Damp Houses .....	...	1
Defective or absence of Eaves Gutters, &c. ...	...	2
Overcrowded Dwellings .....	...	1
Defective Walls and Ceilings .....	...	5
Totals	8	20
Tank Privies converted to Pail System		4
Ashpits abolished		1
Houses where bins have been provided		11

ROUGHLEE.

Number of Houses inspected under the Housing Act	18
„ „ found defective „ „	17
„ „ „ satisfactory „ „	1
Defects remedied :—	
	Ordinary Under
	Inspection. Housing Act
Defective Ashpits	1
Defective Drainage	7
Insufficient Closet Accommodation	6
Insufficient Accommodation for House Refuse ...	12
Insanitary Privies	3
Damp Houses	3
Defective or Absence of Eaves Gutters.....	12
Dirty condition of Dwellings	1
Defective Yard Paving	3
Houses with rooms not properly ventilated ...	3
	—
Total	Nil 51

In addition to the above the water supplies to 7 houses have been improved by conveying the water by proper pipes into the houses. Prior to this water had to be carried by hand for a considerable distance.

Tank Privies converted to Pail System 3

SABDEN.

Number of Houses inspected under the Housing Act	170
„ „ found satisfactory „ „	37
„ „ „ defective „ „	133
Defects remedied :—	
	Ordinary Under
	Inspection. Housing Act
Accumulation of Night Soil, Refuse, &c.	15 ...
Defective Ashpits	1 5
Defective Drainage .....	... 9
Choked Waste Water Closets	4 ...
Insanitary Privies .....	... 2
Damp Houses .....	... 6
Defective or absence of Eaves Gutters .....	... 2
Streets in such a condition as to be a nuisance	1 ...
Choked Sewers	2 ...
Overcrowded Dwellings .....	... 1
Defective Water Fittings	4 ...
Defective Yard Paving .....	... 5
Other Defects .....	... 1
	—
Totals	27 31
Tank Privies converted to Pail System	2
Ashpits abolished	6

SIMONSTONE.

Number of Houses inspected under the Housing Act	12
„ „ found satisfactory „ „	Nil
„ „ „ defective „ „	12

Defects remedied :—

	Ordinary Inspection.	Under Housing Act
Accumulations of Night Soil, Refuse, &c. ...	2	...
Defective Ashpits	2	5
Defective Drainage .....	...	3
Choked Waste Water Closets .....	...	2
Insanitary Privies	2	1
Insanitary Middensteads	1	...
Damp Houses .....	...	2
Streets in such a condition as to be a nuisance	1	...
Dwellings in dirty condition.....	...	1
Defective Yard Paving .....	...	4
Contents of Shippon Tank overflowing	1	...
Houses with rooms not properly ventilated...	...	1
Dilapidated Out-buildings .....	...	2
Defective Roofs .....	...	1
Defective Walls and Ceilings .....	...	1
Other Nuisances	2	...
	—	—
Totals	11	23
Tank Privies converted to Pail System		2
Ashpits abolished		7
Houses where Refuse Bins have been provided.....		13

WORSTHORNE.

Number of Houses inspected under Housing Act	16
„ „ found satisfactory „ „	1
„ „ where defects existed „ „	15

Defects remedied :—

	Ordinary Inspection.	Under Housing Act
Accumulations of Night Soil, Refuse, &c. ...	2	...
Defective Ashpits	4	4
Defective Drainage	39	7
Polluted and Insufficient Water Supplies ...	3	...
Animals kept sa as to be a nuisance	1	...
Insufficient Closet Accommodation	1	...
Insufficient Accommodation for House Refuse	3	...
Insanitary Privies	33	7
Insanitary Middensteads	1	...
Damp Houses .....	...	1
Smoke Nuisances	1	...

	Ordinary Inspection.	Under Housing Act
Choked Surface Water Gullies and Drains ...	...	1
Defective Water Fittings	7	...
Contents of Shippon Tanks overflowing	2	...
Houses with rooms not properly ventilated ...	...	5
Dilapidated Out-buildings demolished	2	...
Defective Yard Walls.....	...	1
Defective Stable Drains	1	...
Other Nuisances	1	...
	—	—
Totals	101	26

45 houses have been entirely re-drained.

Pail Closets converted to Fresh-water Closets	10
Tank " " " "	18
Pail " " Waste "	8
Tank " " " "	4
Houses where Ashpits have been abolished and Bins provided	20

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.—133 inspections have been made, the following being a list of improvements effected after notices had been served upon the occupiers of the farms at which the defects were found to exist.

Improved Water Supplies	1
Improved Lighting and Ventilation of Shippons...	6
Shippon Floors re-laid and improved	6
Improved Drainage	7
Shippons Limewashed	9

Several defects have been discovered at other farms and are either now being attended to, or will be, during the coming spring.

At each visit the milk cans and dairy utensils have been inspected and were all found clean.

Samples of milk were taken from two cows suspected to be suffering from Tuberculosis. These samples were submitted for bacteriological examination with the result that one produced a "positive" result. This particular cow was at once isolated, and a later visit elicited the fact that it had been destroyed.

I would state here that throughout the District there is a general improvement in the farm buildings, the cowsheds are cleaner than they were, and the methods of the farmers more sanitary, and I have generally found the farmers themselves very willing to co-operate in any matters needing attention.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.—The Workshops in the District have been inspected during the year, details of which will be found in the tables at the end of this report. Seven defects were reported by the Factory Inspector and related to defective gas fires at

two workshops in Briercliffe, a workshop in the same township which needed limewashing, defective privies at factories at Laneshawbridge and Hapton, and rooms without sufficient means of escape in the event of fire at mills at Laneshawbridge and Dunnockshaw. These places were visited as soon as possible after receipt of the Factory Inspector's notices, and with the exception of the two mills without fire escapes (where the work is now in progress), all the matters have been attended to.

The privies at one of the Worsthorne factories have been converted to W.C.'s and are a decided improvement, whilst a new set of conveniences have been erected at one of the Hapton mills.

The bake-houses were found clean.

There are no underground bakehouses.

Two Statutory Notices have been served upon owners of factories, but the work was carried out without resorting to legal proceedings.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.—Many of the Slaughter Houses are situated at farms and only used occasionally for the purpose of slaughtering sheep and pigs. These were all found clean with the exception of one where the walls needed limewashing. This, however, was done after a notice had been served.

In three cases notices had to be served upon butchers respecting their depositing offal in places where it caused a nuisance.

No new licences have been granted during the year.

In some cases meat is brought from the abbatoirs at Burnley and neighbouring towns.

No meat has been condemned.

ANTHRAX.—One case of Anthrax has been reported by the police authorities. This occurred at a farm at Habergham-Eaves. The carcase (a cow) was removed to the refuse destructor at Burnley and I am pleased to say that none of the persons who had the animal to deal with contracted the disease.

As in my last year's report I must again congratulate the Council upon the work accomplished throughout the District, and without exception I have always found the Council not only willing but anxious and determined to do all that it can for the general improvement and well-being of all matters and persons within its area. And the matters still in hand and requiring attention will be pressed forward as soon as possible.

I thank most heartily your Clerk, Surveyor, Inspector and all the officers for the hearty help and co-operation.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. J. ROBINSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

VITAL STATISTICS.—TABLE I.

of the Whole District during 1911 and Previous Years.

BURNLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGIS- TERED IN THE DISTRICT.		TRANSFER- ABLE DEATHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONG- ING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Uncorrected Number.	Nett.				of Non-residents registered in the District.	of Residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
			Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births			Number.	Rate.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1906	18000	429	429	23·9	270	15·00	7	4	52	121·2	267	15·00
1907	19000	423	423	22·2	235	12·4	5	5	40	94·5	235	12·4
1908	19800	427	427	21·5	236	11·9		6	49	114·7	242	12·0
1909	20000	383	383	19·15	276	13·8		4	42	109·66	280	14·0
1910	20000	410	410	20·5	252	12·6			54	131·7	253	12·9
1911	20360	396	396	19·45	227	11·14	7	17	56	141·41	237	11·64

Total population at all ages, 20,292

No. of inhabited houses, 4,772

Average number of persons per house, 4·25

At Census of
1911.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 42,454.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1911.—TABLE II.

BURNLEY RURAL DISTRICT.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.							TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY.				Total Cases removed to Hospital.	
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						1	2	3	4		
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.						
													65 and upwards.
Small Pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria, including Membranous Group }	19	...	4	12	...	3	...	14	...	1	4	...	3
Erysipelas ...	10	1	...	...	1	5	3	3	...	2	5	...	20
Scarlet Fever ...	46	...	10	28	6	2	...	18	11	1	16	...	...
Typhus Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever ...	5	...	...	...	2	...	3	2	1	...	2	...	1
Relapsing Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever ...	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	1	...	...
Plague ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
(Under Tuberculosis Regu-	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
lations, 1908 }	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis Ditto 1911 ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Others ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	82	1	14	40	9	12	6	37	13	4	28	...	24

VITAL STATISTICS.—TABLE IV.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1911.

Nett Deaths from stated Causes at various Ages under One Year of Age.

BURNLEY RURAL DISTRICT.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Wk.	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 1 Month	1-3 Months	3-6 Months	6-9 Months	9-12 Months	Total Deaths under One Year
All Causes -										
Certified	17	2	7	..	26	8	2	7	12	55
Uncertified .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Small-pox .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chicken-pox ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Scarlet Fever.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria and Croup .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough.....	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	3	5
Diarrhœa .....	..	..	..	..	2	2	..	1	1	4
Enteritis .....	..	1	1	..	2	..	..	2	..	4
Tuberculous Meningitis .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Abdominal Tuberculosis .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Tuberculous Diseases .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Congenital Malformations	1	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	2
Premature Birth	11	1	2	..	14	..	..	..	..	14
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus...	2	..	1	..	3	..	1	..	..	4
Atelectasis...	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Injury at birth .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Syphilis .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rickets .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>).....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Convulsions	1	..	1	..	2	2	1	2	..	7
Gastritis .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Laryngitis .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bronchitis .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2
Pneumonia (all forms) .....	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	4	7
Suffocation, overlying .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Causes	2	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	..	3
	17	2	7	..	26	8	3	7	12	56

Nett Births in the Year	{ Legitimate ...	385
	{ Illegitimate...	11

Nett Deaths in the Year	{ Legitimate Infants...	56
	{ Illegitimate „	—

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES AND HOMEWORK.
1.—INSPECTION.

INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTOR.

PREMISES. (1)	Number of		
	INSPECTIONS. (2)	WRITTEN NOTICES. (3)	PROSECUTIONS. (4)
FACTORIES (Including Factory Laundries)	22	6	..
WORKSHOPS (Including Workshop Laundries)	15	5	..
WORKPLACES .. .. .	..	..	..
TOTAL	37	11	..

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	Number of Prosecutions (5)
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>				
Want of Cleanliness	3	2	Nil	Nil
Want of Ventilation .. .. .	..	..	..	..
Overcrowding .. .. .	..	..	..	..
Want of drainage of Floors .. .. .	..	..	..	..
Other Nuisances	4	4	..	..
Sanitary Accommodation { Insufficient	2	2		
{ Unsuitable or Defective	4	4	..	..
{ Not separate for Sexes	1	1		
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of Underground Bakehouse .. .. .	..	..	..	..
Breach of special sanitary requirements for Bakehouses	..	..	..	..
Other Offences	2	..	..	..
TOTAL	16	13	Nil	Nil

3.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

WORKSHOPS ON THE REGISTER AT THE END OF THE YEAR.											NUMBER.
(1)											(2)
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14
Various	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Total number of Workshops on Register ..											25

4.—OTHER MATTERS.

Class. (1)	Number. (2)
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—	
Failure to affix abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 133)	7
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector .. as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 5)	9 (includes two in connection with work left over from last year)
Report (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector .. .. .	..
Other .. .. .	..
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) :—	
Certificates granted during the year .. .. .	..
In use at the end of the year .. .. .	..